

SONA METZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sona Metz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sona Metz is a 12th grader at Pomona High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sona Metz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sona Metz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF COUNCILMAN  
JAMES A. WALLACE, JR.

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Councilman James (Jim) A. Wallace, Jr. for his 45 years of service to the Metuchen Fire Department. Councilman Wallace's outstanding contributions to his community are to be celebrated by the Metuchen Fire Department at its 2014 Chief's Dinner and Installation of Officers.

A lifelong resident of Metuchen, Councilman Wallace serves his community in many capacities. He was recently re-elected to his second term on the Metuchen Borough Council. In addition, Councilman Wallace served on the Metuchen Police Department for 27 years, retiring in 1992 as a sergeant.

Before joining the police force, Councilman Wallace volunteered with the Washington Hose Co. for 4 years. In 1971, he rejoined the Metuchen Fire Department with the Eagle Hook and Ladder Co. and was elected Captain a year later. He also served as treasurer, Assistant Fire Chief and Chief. In 2010, the Washington Hose Co. and the Eagle Hook and Ladder Co. merged to become the Metuchen Volunteer Fire Co. Councilman Wallace was elected treasurer of the newly formed company in 2011.

Councilman Wallace was a member of the Metuchen Fireman's Relief Association, serving as treasurer for many years, and the Middlesex County Fireman's Association, where he served as president for several years. He was also a member of the board that created the Middlesex County Fire Academy, which has trained thousands of firefighters since opening in 1992.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in thanking Councilman Wallace for his service to the Metuchen Fire Department and the greater Metuchen community. He has dutifully

served Metuchen for 45 years and his selfless commitment is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

RECOGNIZING THE RAINIER BEACH  
HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S BASKET-  
BALL TEAM

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Rainier Beach High School (RBHS) men's basketball team on their invitation to the Dick's Sporting Goods High School National Tournament. This prestigious invitation is yet another example of the program's excellence and reminds us that Rainier Beach deserves a place in the upper echelon of high school basketball in our nation.

The Rainier Beach High School basketball team has played with excellence all season long, and is incredibly deserving of this opportunity. Going undefeated throughout their regular season has made them the top-ranked team in Washington State, and has given them much deserved national recognition as the basketball powerhouse that they have proven themselves to be.

Founded in 2009 to create a national championship tournament for high school basketball, the Dick's Sporting Goods tournament invites the top eight teams in the country to compete. The tournament will be broadcast on national television and the final game played in New York City's Madison Square Garden. This event is a fantastic opportunity for the RBHS Vikings to showcase their skills in front of a national audience. I am pleased that the incredible athletic prowess from the 9th District of Washington State will be recognized across the country.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the Rainier Beach Vikings on their successful season. I wish them the best of luck as they take on the top talent our country has to offer.

SIERRA SANCHEZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sierra Sanchez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sierra Sanchez is an 8th grader at Wheat Ridge 5-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sierra Sanchez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sierra Sanchez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedi-

cation and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF KILAH DAVENPORT

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Kilah Davenport, a young girl from my district in North Carolina who was taken from this world much too soon.

Kilah was a young girl full of joy, laughter and love. Two years ago, when Kilah was just three-years-old, she was a victim of felony child abuse and suffered severe mental and physical damage. All of the doctors told Kilah's family that she would not survive, but she pulled through and overcame the odds stacked against her.

I had the pleasure of meeting young Kilah and her wonderful, loving family, and I was moved by their incredible strength and faith. Kilah's recovery was slow and she faced extensive physical therapy and rehab. When most people would have given up, Kilah and her family endured, becoming advocates for legislation to protect our children. Kilah inspired the state of North Carolina to pass legislation that increases sentencing punishments for five child abuse-related felonies. Tragically, on March 12, just three weeks before her 5th birthday, Kilah Davenport passed away.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of the Kilah Davenport Child Protection Act of 2013 (H.R. 3627), which guarantees that our states can address the serious problem of felony child abuse and makes certain that those who choose to harm a child suffer real and meaningful consequences. I am committed to ensuring the safety of the most innocent in our society. I support this bill that passed the House, and I encourage the Senate to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue to pray for Kilah's family. I hope they can find the peace and comfort that only comes from our loving God as they go through this troubling time.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP  
OF DR. TERRI H. FINKEL

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 24, 2014*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Women's History Month, to recognize Terri H. Finkel, M.D., Ph.D. Dr. Finkel serves as Chair of Pediatrics and Chief Scientific Officer at Nemours Children's Hospital in Lake Nona Medical City, Orlando, Florida, and Professor of Pediatrics and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine.

Dr. Finkel received both her medical degree in 1982 and a Ph.D. in biochemistry and biophysics in 1984, from Stanford University. She completed pediatric residency training at Boston Children's Hospital and the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. She then completed a fellowship in pediatric